

RESOLUTION ON WORKERS UNITED-SEIU ON DISTRIBUTION AND LOGISTICS ORGANIZING

WHEREAS Workers United-SEIU represents thousands of distribution and logistics workers, constituting at 23% the largest single segment of our membership; and

WHEREAS distribution and logistics is one of the fastest-growing sectors of the U.S. economy, with non-supervisory employment in the warehousing and storage sector (NAICS 493) almost doubling over the past decade, with rapid growth expected to resume after a slight downturn resulting from the coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS conditions of employment in distribution and logistics are poor, with temporary and agency jobs, low wages, few benefits, uncomfortable and unhealthy work environments, high pressure, surveillance and abusive supervision the norm; and

WHEREAS the coronavirus pandemic has caused increased pressure on distribution and logistics workers, with lack of PPE and social distancing, and lack of transparency about cases of infection, resulting in anger and job actions by many workers; and

WHEREAS distribution and logistics organizing has encountered significant obstacles, among the most important being the large number of temporary and agency workers, high turnover, difficult access, 3PL employers, intense employer resistance and a dysfunctional NLRA; and

WHEREAS organizing distribution and logistics workers in the U.S. and Canada, linking their struggle with that of workers in the retailers' global supply chains, can create powerful public campaigns and a public narrative of Workers United-SEIU and SEIU as a leader in the global fight for workers' rights, justice and jobs with dignity;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Workers United-SEIU will prioritize organizing distribution workers in the USA and Canada.

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